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THE ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1946 OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH TO THE DISS URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

The Red House,
Wymondham.

July, 1947.

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Holker and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report for 1946. As I was not the Medical Officer of Health during the period under review in this Report, apologies are made for any omissions which may have been inadvertently made.

In accordance with the instructions from the Ministry of Health, this report is on the lines of that for 1945.

Details of vital statistics for Diss Urban District are given below.

The estimated population is 13 more than it was in 1945. The birth rate per thousand of the estimated population in the year under review was 11.53 which shows a decrease of 1.53 compared with the figure for 1945 and is 7.57 less than the rate for England and Wales as a whole during 1946. These figures, among other things, indicate the importance of speedy provision of housing for young married people in the Council's district if the population is not to show a gradual decline.

In 1945, 20.45% of all live births in Diss U.D. were illegitimate but in 1946 the percentage fell to 5.13. This decline in illegitimacy is in step with that in similar communities in Norfolk and elsewhere and is influenced by the return to more normal peacetime conditions.

The Still Birth Rate per 1000 total births was 48.78 as compared with 43.47 in 1945.

The Death Rate for the year per 1000 estimated population was 13.01 which is 1.44 higher than in 1945 and 1.95 higher than the rate for England and Wales as a whole during 1946. This higher death rate for the Diss U.D. is due, most probably, to the relatively older population in the District. The death rate exceeded the Birth Rate by 1.48 which tends to reinforce the comment regarding housing made above in connection with the Birth Rate.

The mortality rate among infants under one year was 25.64 per thousand live births although the number of births and deaths is so small as to make this figure hardly statistically significant.

There were no deaths from Puerperal or other maternal causes.

There was no epidemic of infectious disease during the period and no child died from Measles, Whooping Cough, Diphtheria or Diarrhoea.

New cases of Tuberculosis notified during the year were three in number.

The area of your District is - - - - - - 3,628 acres.

Population (Registrar-General's estimate) - - 3,381

ditto (1931 Census) - - - - - - - 3,421

Number of inhabited houses (end of 1946) - - 1,062

Rateable Value - - - - - - - - -£16,795

Product of Penny Rate - - - - - - £66/0/8d

Vital Statistics for 1946.
Births and Deaths.

Live Births.	Male.	Female.	Total.
Legitimate	17	20	37
Illegitimate	1	1	2
			39

Birth Rate per 1000 estimated population - - 11.53

Still Births.	Male	Female.	Total.
Legitimate	1	0	1
Illegitimate	1	0	1
			2

Still Birth Rate per 1000 total births - - - - 48.78

Deaths.

Number - 44. (24 male, 20 female).

Death Rate per 1000 estimated population - - - - - 13.01

Deaths from Puerperal Sepsis and other maternal causes. Nil

Death Rates for infants under 1 year (1 death) - all infants per 1000 live births - - - - - - - - 25.64

Deaths from Cancer (all ages) - - - - - - - - - - - 4

Deaths from Measles (all ages) - - - - - - - - - - - Nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years)- - - - - - - - Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough - - - - - - - - - - - - - Nil

The following table gives the causes of death during 1946 in Diss Urban District.

Causes of Death.	Total (all ages)
Tuberculosis (not respiratory)	2
Cancer of the Buccal Cavity, Oesophagus or Uterus	1
Cancer of the Breast	2
Cancer of other Sites	1
Diabetes	1
Intracranial Vascular Lesions	3
Heart Disease	20
Other Circulatory Diseases	6
Bronchitis	3
Con.mal.Birth Injuries, Infant Diseases	1
Suicide	1
All other causes of death	2
Digestive Diseases	1
	44

Incidence of Notifiable Infectious Diseases during 1946.

Disease	Number of Cases.
Measles	42
Scarlet Fever	6
Whooping Cough	4
Infective Jaundice	2
Pneumonia	2
Dysentery	1
Erysipelas	1
Cerebrospinal Meningitis	1

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT. YEAR 1946.

1. Number of Inspections and Particulars:-

Housing	245
Ditto with M.O.H.	6
Scavenging	133
Drainage	359
Markets	263
Factories	107
Infectious Diseases	31
Slaughterhouse	342
Cowsheds and Dairies	188
Vans used for Human Habitation	106
Shops Act, 1934	339
Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919.	78
Total number of inspections	2197

2. Notices.

Number of formal preliminary notices	27
Number of informal notices	9
Number of statutory notices	Nil
	36

3. Nuisances.

Complaints received	2
Found on inspection	36
	38
Number abated by formal Notice	27
Number abated by informal Notice	11
Number abated by statutory notice	--
	38

4. Defects other than Nuisances.

Number found on inspection	11
Number remedied by Informal Notice	11

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

(1) Number of W.Cs. fixed on premises connected to the Sewers during the year:-

Council houses built during the year (10)	20.
Other houses and premises	9
Number converted from Pail Closets	3
Number converted to Pail closets from Privy Vaults	1
	33

(2) Number of closets of each type remaining at end of year:-

Number of Privy-Vault (Fixed type)	64
Pail closets (Removeable Receptacles)	287
Water Closets (Houses and Premises)	767
Water Closets (School and Public Buildings)	65

Number of inspections made in connection with drainage 359.

SCAVENGING.

The work of scavenging is done by the Council with direct labour. A 5-ton lorry is used for the collection of house refuse and collection of salvage.

The refuse and salvage collection is under the direction and supervision of the Surveyor.

Refuse disposal is by open tipping, the land so used being surfaced with suitable materials and brought into later agricultural tillage.

The emptying and disposal of contents of Pail and Vault Closets is under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspector.

Disposal is by deposit on agricultural land for manurial purposes. Farms used are situate at Walcot Green and Stuston. Arrangement is also made for it to be dealt with at the sewage disposal works.

	No. emptied.	Loads.
Pail closets emptied weekly	287	331
Privy Vault closets	38	56
Dustbins emptied weekly	641	

Number of inspections made in respect of Scavenging... 133

CAMPING SITES.

There are no sites used, or available for this purpose in the district.

VANS USED FOR HUMAN HABITATION.

Periodical visits, as necessary, were made to inspect vans standing in the area and used for human habitation. All were found to be in a clean and satisfactory condition. Special attention was directed to the provision for the collection of refuse, lavatory accommodation and the provision of an adequate and proper water supply.

Number of visits of inspection made during the year -- 106.

SWIMMING BATHS OR POOLS.

There are no swimming baths or pools available in this district.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

Two cottages have been disinfested of bed bugs during the year. There was no case of reinfestation to report.

DISINFESTATION OF FLEAS.

One case of disinfestation of a dwelling infested with fleas was dealt with during the year.

DISINFECTION AND CLEANSING.

Number of visits in cases of infectious disease - - -	31
Number of rooms disinfected - - - - - - - -	18
Number of dwelling-houses cleansed before reoccupation following insanitary conditions - - -	2

HOUSING.

1. Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year and inspected for defects 59

   Number of inspections made for that purpose 245

   Number of dwelling-houses recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 -1936 5

   Number of houses found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for habitation. 49

   Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit by informal action of Officer of the local authority. 45

   Number of unfit houses demolished during the year and in respect of which a Demolition Certificate has been issued. 1

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2. Proceedings under the Public Health Acts.

   Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Formal Notices were served requiring repairs 10

   Number of houses in respect of which Informal Action was taken requiring repairs. 25

   Number of dwelling-houses of which defects were remedied after Formal Notice and Informal Action:-
   (a) By the owners 33
   (b) By the Local Authority Nil

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3. Housing Act, 1936. Part II

   Number of representations made by the Medical Officer of Health in pursuance of Sec.11 of the Housing Act, 1936. Nil

   Number of Statutory Notices served on Owners Nil

4. Housing Act, 1936. Part III

   Number of Certificates issued under the Housing Act, 1936, Part III, Sec.51 4

   The period for which the Certificates were issued: 5 years.

HOUSING SUMMARY.

Unfit houses in representations to 31st December, 1946.
Number of houses in respect of which representation was made..19
Number of persons in occupation - Adults 58. Children 11.
Number of houses demolished - - - - - - - 3
Number of houses included in the above now void and uninhabitable. - 9

OVERCROWDING.

HOUSING ACT, 1936, PART IV.

1. Number of dwelling-houses overcrowded at 31st Dec.1945..6
2. Number of cases reported during the year 1946..... 4
3. Number of cases found during the year 3
4. Number of persons concerned in such cases..... 41
5. Number of cases relieved during the year..... 5
6. Number of cases existing at 31st December, 1946 8

Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after steps taken by the Officer of the Local Authority for the abatement of overcrowding..... 1

Number of dwelling-houses surveyed for the purpose of the Housing Act, 1936, Part IV to the 31st December, 1946 and recorded 854

The present conditions of overcrowding are caused by:-

(a) The return to civilian life of members of the Forces.

(b) The number of young newly-married people sharing a house with parents, or with relations or friends.

(c) The general shortage of the housing accommodation in the district.

NEW HOUSING ACCOMMODATION.

Number of new permanent houses built by the Local Authority and occupied during the year to 31st December, 1946.... 10

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MILK SUPPLY.

REGISTER.

Number of Producer Retailers - - -	3
Number of Producer Wholesalers - -	11
	14

Number of Inspections of Cowsheds and Dairies	188
Number of Samples taken for "Accredited" standard	16
Number of Biological samples taken for "T.T." test	39
Number of samples delayed in transit and therefore failed to qualify for testing	1

During the year one Producer Wholesaler has discontinued cow-keeping and the registration has been cancelled.

During the year one Producer-Retailer has ceased to sell by retail in the district and all the milk from the farm is now disposed of by Wholesale.

Number of Retailers retailing milk produced in areas outside the district - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	3
Number of Retail Dealers licensed to use the designation "Pasteurised" Milk - - - - - - - - - -	1
Number of "Accredited" licensed producers - - - -	4
Number of "T.T." licensed producers - - - - - - -	2
Number of Retailers retailing "T.T." Milk in the district - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	1
Number of Retail Dealers retailing in the district bottled "Pasteurised" Milk - - - -	1

NOTICES.

Number of Statutory Notices issued and served during the year requiring cleansing and limewashing - - - -	2
Number of Notices complied with - - - - - - - - -	2

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MEAT - INSPECTION AND EXAMINATION.

Diss is a slaughtering centre under the provisions of the Memoranda and Orders issued by the Ministry of Food and the Ministry of Health.

The duties of inspection and examination of all the slaughtered carcases are carried out by the Sanitary Inspector of the Diss Urban Council.

Slaughtering at the Diss Centre includes the meat supply and distribution of the following areas:-

Diss Urban District.
Eye Borough.
Depwade Rural District.
Hartismere Rural District.

Particulars of the Inspections are as follows:-

Number of visits to the slaughterhouse by Inspector:	342
Number of visits in company with the M.O.H.	Nil
Number of carcases inspected	5383
Number of carcases with organs examined	2345
Number of carcases submitted to a detailed examination including Organs and Glands	682
Number of Tuberculous carcases examined	42

Notices received during the year	1

Details:- Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.
Tuberculosis Order of 1938.

- - -

Form C (Article 4)

(d) Showing definite clinical signs of Tuberculosis.

A complete examination of the Carcase with Organs and Glands was made with the Veterinary Inspector of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries on the 6th February, 1946, and dealt with pursuant to the requirements of the Order.

SUMMARY OF DETAILS OF INSPECTIONS AND EXAMINATIONS. YEAR 1946.

	Cattle.	Calves.	Sheep.	Lambs.	Pigs.	Total.
General.	1533.	1552.	1772.	47.	473	5377
Casualties.	114.	25.	8.	2.	12.	161
Private.	-	-	-	-	48	48
Emergency	-	-	-	-	26	26
T.B. Order.	1	-	-	-	-	1

CONDEMNATIONS

1. All diseases except Tuberculosis						
(a) Whole Carcases	3.	5.	7.	-	8	23
(b) Part Carcases	627.	3	13.	-	16.	659
2. Tuberculosis only.						
(a) Whole carcases	8	-	-	-	4	12
(b) Part carcases	19	11	-	-	-	30

WEIGHTS OF MEAT CONDEMNED.

	Tons.	Cwts.	Stones.	lbs.
(a) All diseases except Tuberculosis	5	9	2	3
(b) Tuberculosis only	3	19	6	9
Total weight condemned	9	9	-	12

NOTES:

The town main water supply is connected to the slaughterhouse.

The drainage of the slaughterhouse is connected to the main sewers.

During the year the structure of the slaughterhouse has been repaired.

The slaughterhouse was limewashed on three occasions during the year.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

CANNED AND OTHER FOODSTUFFS, INCLUDING IMPORTED MEAT.

The following particulars are given of the canned and other Foodstuffs, including Imported Meat, condemned as being unfit for food during the year 1946.

Total number of tins condemned - - - - - - 495

The tins included:- Corned Beef, Preserves, Fish, Cooked Meat, Milk and Vegetables.

Other Foodstuffs Condemned.

Imported Beef - - -	36 lbs
2 fores bacon - - -	38 lbs
Semolina - - - -	18 lbs
10 bags flour - - -	30 lbs
Chocolate - - - -	18 ozs
2 bags Chestnuts - -	72 lbs

Special samples of foodstuffs taken during the year and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory Service.

(Directed by the Medical Research Council for the Ministry of Health), Public Health Laboratory, Isolation Hospital, Bowthorpe Road, Norwich).

Bacteriological examination and Report.

	Number of samples.
Milk	2
Flour	2
Bread	2
Icecream	4

SHOPS AND STORES.

Number of inspections during the year - -	339
Number of shops and stores registered - -	85

The following defects were found during the year:-

Insufficient lighting	Nil
Cleansing of Premises	3
Insufficient Lavatory Accommodation.	1
Defective Sanitary Conveniences	2
Defective heating	1
Insufficient ventilation	Nil
Total defects found	7

Number of statutory notices issued - -	Nil
Number of defects remedied upon request of Inspector - - - -	7

NOTES OF THE YEAR 1946

1 shop has had the heating arrangements improved.

3 shops have had the interiors cleaned and painted.

1 shop has had the floor repaired.

2 defective W.Cs have been repaired.

A generally good standard of maintenance is observed of all shops and stores in the district and attention is specially given to the observance of cleanliness.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ACT, 1919.

1. COUNCIL PREMISES.

One operator is employed by the Council working under the direction and supervision of the Sanitary Inspector for the treatment of all Council properties.

The properties and premises dealt with are as follows:-

(a) Council Housing Estates.

(b) Council Stores and Stable Premises, Chapel Street.

(c) The Stores and Depot, No.112 Victoria Road.

(d) Sewage Works and Disposal Grounds, Victoria Road.

(e) Refuse Disposal Tip, Rose Lane, Palgrave.

(f) The Public Lavatory Premises, Mere Street.

All the above are regularly inspected and periodically treated for any possible infestation.

Sewers and Sewerage System.

During the year two tests have been carried out and special reports have been prepared and issued to the Council at the conclusion of each of the tests.

2. OTHER PREMISES.

All other premises that may be reported are dealt with by the operator of the County Agricultural Committee (Pests Department) under the contract with the Owner or Occupier as the case may be.

The premises dealt with and registered during the year are as follows:-

(a) Butchers' premises.
(b) Bakers' stores and premises.
(c) Hotels and Licensed premises.
(d) Maltings and premises.
(e) Grinding Mills premises.
(f) Granaries and Stores.
(g) Fishmongers' premises.
(h) Shops and Retail Stores.

This Urban District, being partly of a rural character, the farms and farm premises are the special work of the County Agricultural Committee who do the necessary work by contract with the farmer.

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3. INSPECTIONS.

Number of inspections made during the year - - - - 78

URBAN DISTRICT OF DISS,
COUNTY OF NORFOLK.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

ANNUAL REPORT.

Particulars of inspections made by the Sanitary Inspector under the provisions of the Factories Act, 1937, for the year 1946 in the Urban District of Diss.

1. INSPECTIONS.

Premises.	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Occupiers prosecuted.
Factories with mechanical power.	31	-	-
Factories without mechanical power	40	-	-
Other premises under the Act	12	-	-
	83	Nil	Nil

2. DEFECTS FOUND.

	Number of defects. Found:	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	Number in which prosecutions were instituted.
Want of cleanliness	4	4	Nil	Nil
Improved drainage	1	1	Nil	Nil
Sanitary Conveniences.				
Insufficient	1	1	Nil	Nil
Unsuitable or defective	3	3	Nil	Nil
	9	9	Nil	Nil

(Signed) G. Handel Jones,

Sanitary Inspector.

Sanitary Inspector's Office,
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13th January, 1947.